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STEAM-BOAT NOVELTY.

We have frequently desired to refer more particularly to the operations and experiments of Dr. Nott, than we have felt at liberty to do; inasmuch as we were aware of his desire to avoid newspaper or periodical notoriety; we cannot, however, refrain from embracing the present opportunity of expressing our admiration of the perseverance with which he has pursued his experiments on the use of anthracite coal for steam navigation.

We conceive that Dr. N., in perfecting his machinery, has laid society under the greatest obligations—we need only point to the destruction of our forests—where is our wood to come from if each of our immense boats consumes 30 to 40 cords per day? We have not been in the habit of considering our forests as other than inexhaustible, but such is the state of things no longer, and we hear complaints from every quarter. Indeed no one could witness the enthusiasm with which the success of the experiment was hailed in every place and at Albany in particular, without being convinced that the substitution of coal for wood has been made *not one day too soon*.

We had the pleasure of being of the party to Albany last week in this beautiful boat. Seldom has it fallen to our lot to make a more pleasant trip. The perfect feeling of security combined with the consciousness of the boat's great speed produced in us a sensation of pleasure as agreeable as unusual.

The Novelty is 252 feet long—certainly our longest boat and we think the largest in the world—her engines are horizontal—two large ones, and a small one for blowing the fire, pumping, &c.

The grates are on the principle of Dr.

Nott's improvements in the use of Anthracite coal—the boilers are tubular.

The economy of the various parts of the machinery is beautiful but we shall not attempt a description in detail. It is sufficient to say that the operation of the boat is most successful. We have never made a passage during which we have less felt the vibration of the machinery, and notwithstanding the boat's great length the motion at her extreme ends as well as beside her machinery was far less than usual.

The great object of the proprietors has been the saving in fuel, and this has been attained most ingeniously. The cost of fuel is less than one half of that in the wood boats. Nineteen to twenty tons will probably be used in a trip.

On Thursday last during the passage the boat had to contend with ebb tide—a freshet in the river—strong N. E. wind. Her time was as follows:

Left New-York	h. m.
Passed Teller's Point	6 27
Verplanks's Point	9 27
Caldwell's	10 5
West Point	10 40
Newburgh	11 26
Poughkeepsie	12 32
Hyde Park	1 4
Rhinebeck	1 52
Barrytown	2 52
Bristol	2 57
Catskill	3 43
Hudson	3 57
Coxsackie	4 29
Baltimore	5 5
Coeymans's	5 17
Arrived at Albany	6 37

Making the whole passage in 12 hours 10 minutes.

An accident before leaving the dock, injured the iron attached to the rudder and prevented the more rapid alteration of the course of the boat, particularly in following the shore to avoid the tide and catch the eddy. This had considerable influence in coming down the river.

On the return of the boat on Saturday two flood tides were encountered, the one at Baltimore, the other at the Highlands. The times were as follows:—

Left Albany	8 5
Passed Coeymans	9 6
Baltimore	9 15
Coxsackie	9 43
Hudson	10 15
Catskill	10 54
Tivoli	11 21
Barrytown	11 38
Rhinebeck	11 58
Hyde Park	12 36
Poughkeepsie	12 58 2 1/2 (out)
Passed the Erie, coming up	1 2
Newburgh	1 52
West Point	2 20
Caldwell	2 54
Yonkers	4 35
Arrived at New-York	5 53

Deducting the landing, making the passage in 9 hours 45 minutes.

Below Poughkeepsie, came in sight of the morning boat, the Champlain, she having left Albany at 7 o'clock, making her usual landings.

She came into the wharf about 1/4 a mile, or 3/4, ahead of the Novelty. From Newburgh down to New York, dense volumes of smoke issued from all four pipes of the Champlain, proving the enormous consumption of fuel; while we feel it our duty to say, that no strain whatever was upon the Novelty—she going at such a rate as is entirely practicable every day.

No coal was put into the furnaces for the last thirty miles on either trip; and while the other boat was smoking furiously, the firemen of the Novelty were upon the front deck cooling themselves, and rejoicing in their light work. They, at least prefer coal to wood.

Speed is certainly desirable, and we were agreeably surprised to find this boat move with such rapidity on a first voyage, when every thing must be new to the hands, having never before used such fuel; whereas,



